



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

November 14, 2016

S. 3097

SelectUSA Authorization Act of 2016

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
on September, 21, 2016*

SUMMARY

S. 3097 would establish the SelectUSA program within the Department of Commerce (DOC) to facilitate business investment in the United States. The bill would authorize the appropriation of \$15 million a year over the 2017-2021 period for the operation of that program. S. 3097 would direct DOC to annually certify that its employees who are political appointees have received training on various government policies. The bill also would require DOC to issue reports on certain government office renovations and steps the department has taken to empower whistleblowing. Lastly, the bill would require the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to submit a report to the Congress with recommendations on the effectiveness of the SelectUSA program.

CBO estimates that implementing this bill would cost \$67 million over the 2017-2021 period, assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts. Enacting S. 3097 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

CBO estimates that enacting S. 3097 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2027.

S. 3097 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary effect of S. 3097 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 370 (commerce and housing credit).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					2017-2021
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	
INCREASES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Estimated Authorization Level	15	15	15	15	15	75
Estimated Outlays	8	14	15	15	15	67

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that the bill will be enacted by the end of calendar year 2016, that the authorized amounts will be appropriated each year, and that outlays will follow the historical rate of spending for this program.

S. 3097 would authorize the appropriation of \$15 million annually over the 2017-2021 period for DOC to implement the SelectUSA program. The SelectUSA program was established in 2011 and is currently operated by the International Trade Administration within DOC. The program's budget was \$10 million in 2016. Based on an analysis of information from DOC, CBO estimates that implementing S. 3097 would cost \$67 million over the 2017-2021 period for the operations of the SelectUSA program, assuming appropriations of the specified amounts. The reporting and certification requirements would cost less than \$500,000 each year. Based on the costs of similar reports conducted by GAO, CBO estimates that the increased costs to GAO to conduct a study and issue a report on the SelectUSA program would be insignificant.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS: None.

INCREASE IN LONG-TERM DIRECT SPENDING AND DEFICITS:

CBO estimates that enacting S. 3097 would not increase net direct spending or on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2027.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 3097 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

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